

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1872.

REPORT

ON THE

Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Westbury and Whorwellsdown Rural
Sanitary District

For the Year 1906.

Presented to the Westbury and Whorwellsdown Rural
District Council by

WALTER H. REED,

Medical Officer of Health of the Westbury and
Whorwellsdown Rural Sanitary Authority.

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REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health of the Westbury and Whorwellsdown Rural District for the Year 1906.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report (with the Statistical Schedules required by the Local Government Board) on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the several Parishes in your area.

The Area of the District is 27118 acres.

The Population at the last Census was 6404.

The estimated Population to the middle of the year was 6644.

The Births registered during the year were :

WESTBURY	-	Males, 38 ; Females, 44 ; Total, 82.
NORTH BRADLEY	-	Males, 34 ; Females, 33 ; Total, 67.
Total for the whole District, 149.		

The Birth-rate per 1000 of the estimated population of 6644 is 22·4.

The Deaths registered during the year were :

WESTBURY	-	Males, 17 ; Females, 26 ; Total, 43.
NORTH BRADLEY	-	Males, 26 ; Females, 17 ; Total, 43.
Total for the whole District, 86.		

The Death-rate per 1000 of the estimated population of 6644 is 12·9.

Infant Mortality.—Sixteen deaths of Infants under one year of age have been recorded, making a percentage of 107·3 per 1000 of the registered births. With one exception all were of the ordinary type of infantile mortality. There was one case of Whooping Cough.

Notified Infectious Diseases.—Forty-four cases were notified to me during the year, viz : Diphtheria, 11 ; Scarlet Fever, 27 ; Erysipelas, 3 ; Enteric Fever, 1 ; Puerperal Fever, 2.

In October an epidemic of Scarlet Fever broke out at West Ashton where twenty-three cases occurred, and this continued to the end of the year. The outbreak occurred in eleven houses at Yarnbrook and West Ashton. The four remaining cases were isolated ones occurring in the early part of the year at Southwick, Bratton, and Steeple Ashton.

Seventeen patients were removed to the Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment.

The Schools at West Ashton were closed from November 5th to November 26th.

A serious epidemic of Diphtheria broke out at Steeple Ashton in November, and continued to the end of the year. Eleven cases were reported to me occurring in seven houses at Steeple Ashton, Ashton Common, and Hinton.

I believe that the Water Supply is the primary cause of this epidemic. In my report in 1901 I expressed a hope that Steeple Ashton would have a proper supply of water, but practically nothing has been done. I now urge most strenuously that a scheme should be carried out at an early date. The County Medical Officer has asked me to assist him in procuring samples of water from all the sources available in Steeple Ashton. The samples that have already been analysed have shewn very serious contamination.

In four cases only could the diphtheritic patients be persuaded to be treated in the Isolation Hospital.

The Schools at Steeple Ashton will not be re-opened until further notice.

The Water Supply at Chapmanslade has been satisfactorily carried out. This is an independent system, and supplies both the Corsley and Westbury division of the Parish.

With the exception of the outbreaks of Infectious Diseases already referred to, the District has been fairly free from any serious disease, and the general health has been good.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER H. REED, M.O.H.

Table 1.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1906 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Deaths under One Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*
1896	10415	212	20.3	26	122.6	135	12.9
1897	10471	248	23.6	43	173.3	154	14.7
1898	10541	207	19.6	19	91.7	137	12.9
1899	10591	245	23.1	18	73.4	139	13.1
1900	6829	156	20.8	18	115.6	103	15.7
1901	6404	145	22.6	11	75.8	92	14.3
1902	6404	139	21.7	10	71.9	98	15.3
1903	6445	148	22.9	9	60.8	90	13.9
1904	6563	146	22.2	18	123.3	86	13.1
1905	6581	148	22.4	4	27.0	70	10.6
Averages for years 1896-1905.	8124	179	22.0	17	94.9	110	13.5
1906	6644	149	22.4	16	107.3	86	12.9

* Rates calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).....27118.

Total population at all ages.....6404

Number of inhabited houses 2413 } At Census of 1901.

Average number of persons per house 2.6

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.....None.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.....

Combined infectious Hospital at Trowbridge.

Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District.....None.

Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

Table 2.—Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1906 and previous Years.

Name of Localities.	WHOLE DISTRICT.				WESTBURY (RURAL).				NORTH BRADLEY.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.												
1896	10415	212	135	26	6628	136	84	20	3787	76	51	6
1897	10471	248	154	43	6659	169	106	29	3812	79	48	14
1898	10541	207	137	19	6698	136	98	15	3843	71	39	4
1899	10591	245	139	18	6736	161	84	14	3855	84	55	4
1900	6829	156	103	18	3246	79	57	13	3583	77	46	5
1901	6404	145	92	11	3158	71	49	7	3246	74	43	4
1902	6404	139	98	10	3150	70	43	4	3254	69	55	6
1903	6445	148	90	9	3171	77	39	7	3274	71	51	2
1904	6563	146	86	18	3263	76	42	11	3300	70	44	7
1905	6581	148	70	4	3237	74	40	3	3344	74	30	1
Averages of Years 1896—1905,	8124	179	110	17	4595	105	64	12	3529	74	46	5
1906	6644	149	86	16	3276	82	43	8	3368	67	43	8

Table 3.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1906.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.						Total Cases notified in each District.		
	At Ages.								
	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and upwards.	WESTBURY (RURAL).	NORTH BRADLEY.
Diphtheria ...	11	...	2	6	3	...	...	...	11
Erysipelas ...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	1
Scarlet Fever ...	27	...	4	15	4	4	...	...	27
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Puerperal Fever ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
TOTALS ...	44	...	6	21	7	10	...	3	41

Joint Isolation Hospital, Trowbridge.

Table 4.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1906.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in whole District at subjoined Ages.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 Year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Whooping-cough ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis ...	4	...	...	...	2	2	...
Other tubercular diseases ...	2	1	...	...	1	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease ...	6	...	...	...	...	2	4
Bronchitis ...	5	1	...	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Heart disease ...	17	...	...	1	...	1	15
All other causes ...	50	13	2	...	2	22	11
All causes ...	86	16	3	1	5	27	34

Table 5.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1906.
Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under one Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 Week.	1 to 2 Weeks.	3 to 4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1 to 2 Months.	2 to 3 Months.	5 to 6 Months.	8 to 9 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes—									
Certified ...	7	2	2	11	2	1	1	1	16
Uncertified...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Common Infectious Diseases—									
Whooping-cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Diarrhoeal Diseases—									
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
Wasting Diseases—									
Premature Birth ...	3	...	1	4	...	...	...	...	4
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	2	1	1	4	1	...	...	...	5
Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Other Causes—									
Convulsions ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Suffocation, overlying ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	7	2	2	11	2	1	1	1	16

Population, estimated to middle of 1906.....6664.
 Births in the year { legitimate.....149 Deaths in the year { legitimate infants.....16
 illegitimate 0 illegitimate infants 0
 Deaths from all Causes at all Ages.....16.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1906.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

1.—Inspection.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
4 Factories ...	8	} Nil.	} Nil.
9 Workshops ...	9		
Total ...	17	...	...

2.—Defects Found.
Nil.

3.—Home Work.

Nature of Work.	Lists received from Employers (Twice in the year).				Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises.
	(Once in the year).				
	Lists.	Outworkers.	Lists.	Outworkers.	
Glove Making, &c. ...	...	75	...	75	75
Total	...	75	...	75	75

4.—Registered Workshops.

Nil.

5.—Other Matters.

Nil.

WALTER H. REED, M.O.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Report

For the Year ending December, 1906.

To the Westbury and Whorwellsdown Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my twenty-second Annual Report as Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for your District.

Main Roads.—Beyond the usual repairs nothing further has been carried out on these Roads. The section of Main Road at Yarnbrook repaired with Tarred Slag in November, 1905, has stood very well, and I regret that, for financial reasons, this material could not be more extensively used in the District as I am sure its use would solve the dust problem.

District Highways.—The usual repairs have been carried out on these Roads.

Road Drainage.—The Frome Rural Authority having constructed a filter at the outfall to receive the Sewage before it discharges into the River, the proposed Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme is in abeyance.

A short length of new six-inch Sewer has been laid in Lower Street.

Chapmanslade Water Supply.—The works for supplying the Village of Chapmanslade with water are completed.

Drainage.—Two short sections of Sewers have been laid in Petticoat Lane and Stormore, Dilton Marsh.

Steeple Ashton Water Supply.—The severe outbreak of Diphtheria in the Parish points to the urgent necessity of a proper supply of water being provided, the existing wells being polluted.

Cowsheds and Dairies.—Owing, I suppose, to old customs dying hard there are still many Farmers and Cowkeepers in the District who do not realise the great importance of cleanliness in connection with Cowsheds and Cow Yards. The Dairies are kept clean, but they are very little used now.

Schools.—I have inspected the Schools and two have been disinfected.

Bakehouses.—These are satisfactory.

Ninety-seven notices relating to Sanitary matters have been served. Twenty-one premises have been disinfected.

I have made the usual inspections of the District, and the close of the year has been marked by an outbreak of Diphtheria at Steeple Ashton and Scarlet Fever at West Ashton and Yarnbrook.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. STANLEY.

Rural District of Westbury and Whorwellsdown.

Sanitary Inspector—Mr. W. H. STANLEY.

Address—Market House Chambers, Trowbridge.

Whether whole time devoted to duties of Sanitary Inspector or not?
No.

Date of last Re-appointment—September, 1906.

Summary of Work done in Sanitary Inspector's Department during year ending 31st December, 1906.

Prevention of Infectious Disease under direction of Medical Officer of Health.

No. of Cases inquired into	...	...	21
No. of Houses Disinfected and Cleansed...			21

Houses.

No. Erected	...	...	...	9
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House Drains.

No. Laid or Re-Laid	...	...	...	9
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Water Closets.

No. of additional W.C's provided	..	Water Closets not general in the District
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Privies and Ashpits.

No. of additional Privies and Ashpits provided	...	...	...	9
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Water Supply.

No. of Houses Supplied from Waterworks (during year)	...	...	...	9
No. of Samples taken for Analysis	...	...	...	3

Slaughter Houses.

No. Registered or Licensed	...	...	5
No. Regularly Inspected	...	...	5
No. Cleansed and Repaired	...	...	2

Dairies and Cowsheds.

No. of Persons engaged in Milk Trade now on Register and under Supervision .	70
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Factories and Workshops and Bakehouses.

No. under Inspection	...	...	...	13
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Animals kept so as to be a nuisance.

No. of Cases of Removal on Notice	...	...	...	1
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Clerical Work.

No. of Notices Served	...	...	...	97
No. of Notices complied with	...	...	...	80
No. of Notices Outstanding	...	...	...	17

